

Application no. 10/798,204
Amendment dated: October 11, 2005
Reply to office action dated: August 11, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Please amend claims 10 and 11, as set out below:

1 (Previously Amended). A hard laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 10.

2 (Previously Amended). A hard laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 11.

3 (Previously Amended). A hard laminate sheet made according to claim 12.

4 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 14.

5 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 15.

6 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 16.

7 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 17.

8 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 18.

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9 (Previously Amended). A laminate sheet made according to the method of claim 19.

10 (Currently Amended). A method for making a hard laminate sheet having a flexible band at one side thereof for use in incorporating said sheet into a security booklet, said method comprising the steps of:

- (i) providing one or more hard core sheets as hard core layer(s) of a lower section of said laminate sheet;
- (ii) providing a flexible sheet over at least a portion of said lower section of hard core layer(s) whereby a portion of said flexible sheet extends beyond an outer edge of said lower section to provide said flexible band, said flexible sheet comprising a plurality of apertures in an area of said flexible sheet over said lower section;
- (iii) providing one or more hard core sheets over both said lower section and said flexible sheet portion there over, as hard core layers of an upper section of said laminate sheet, whereby said upper and lower sections are positioned for lamination together; and,
- (iv) laminating said hard core layers to produce core-to-core bonds between adjacent hard core layers and within said apertures of said flexible sheet,

whereby said core-to-core bonds within said apertures affixes said flexible sheet to said laminate sheet and the outer edges of said upper and lower sections of said laminate sheet are aligned so as to together define the outer edges of said laminate sheet.

11 (Currently Amended). A method according to claim 10 whereby said flexible sheet is provided over a side portion of said lower section and a partial hard core sheet is provided over an opposite side of said lower section, in juxtaposition with said flexible sheet, whereby said laminating step includes laminating said partial hard core sheet and the outer edges of said partial hard core sheet, except for the outer edge thereof

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juxtaposed with said flexible sheet, are aligned with the corresponding outer edges of said upper and lower sections of said laminate sheet.

12 (Previously Amended). A method according to claim 10, whereby a front and back of said laminate sheet, defined by outermost ones of said hard core sheets, are printable up to said outer edge adjacent said flexible band.

13 (Previously Amended). A method according to claim 11, whereby a front and back of said laminate sheet, defined by outermost ones of said hard core sheets, are printable up to said outer edge adjacent said flexible band.

14 (Original). A method according to claim 10 whereby said core layers are comprised of polycarbonate.

15 (Previously Amended). A method according to claim 11 whereby said core layers are comprised of polycarbonate.

16 (Original). A method according to claim 10 wherein said flexible component is comprised of nylon.

17 (Original). A method according to claim 11 wherein said flexible component is comprised of nylon.

18 (Previously Amended). A method according to claim 10 whereby said laminate sheet is configured for laser engraving.

19 (Previously Amended). A method according to claim 12 and further comprising providing a hard core inlay layer configured for embedding a contactless integrated circuit chip whereby said laminating step includes laminating said inlay layer.